



World Health  
Organization



## **Training in Assistive Products for Hearing (TAP)**

**12 - 16 November, 2024**

**Community Medicine, MAMC, New Delhi**

Training - Training in Assistive Products (TAP) for hearing

Date: 12 Nov 2024 – 17 Nov 2024

Venue: Community Medicine Department, Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi

Objective: up skilling the Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) working in government facilities of Delhi for early detection of hearing loss and provision of hearing aid

Day wise report and summary of the training

### **Preparatory day - 11 November 2024**

A preparatory cum stakeholder meeting was held in the community medicine department, MAMC Delhi to ensure smooth conduction of the training as well as taking all stakeholders attending the meeting onboard for the training as well as for support in incorporating the skills developed through the training program in the routine service delivery practices. The stakeholders that attended the meeting included program officers for the NPPCD from the MOHFW, GoI as well as from DOHFW, Govt of NCT Delhi, officials from WHO country office, WHO SEAR regional office, officials from ICMR, NIHF, NHSRC, CHEB and officials from technical support partners 'Sound and Hearing 2030' and 'Mobility India'.



## Day 1 – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

The Training in Assistive Products (TAP) for hearing, a joint initiative by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC), commenced successfully as planned on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 at the Department of Community Medicine, MAMC, New Delhi. The training session, organized in collaboration with the Departments of Community Medicine and ENT, was aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) from different districts across Delhi for early detection of hearing problems and provision of hearing aid if found suitable or referral to appropriate ENT facility from their workplace. A total of 22 ANM participants were in attendance during the training period. The event started with a brief yet formal opening ceremony, attended by the esteemed Dean of MAMC, Delhi who highlighted the importance of up skilling frontline healthcare workers in the context of current public health challenge.

The session began with online registration by all participants for accessing the WHO TAP module and introduction to the objectives of TAP, followed by interactive online modules facilitated by mentors from MAMC's Community Medicine & ENT departments and WHO team. The first day's agenda focused on sensitizing the ANMs with various assistive products and enhanced screening techniques & early identification skills in the context of Ear-related health issues prevalent in community settings.

The training was designed to be interactive, engaging and participatory which was reflecting in participants taking active part in discussions, asking questions and clarifications and contributing to the enriching learning environment.

At the end of the day feedback was sought from the participants to improve areas where participants felt improvements were needed or sustain good practices which the participants liked.





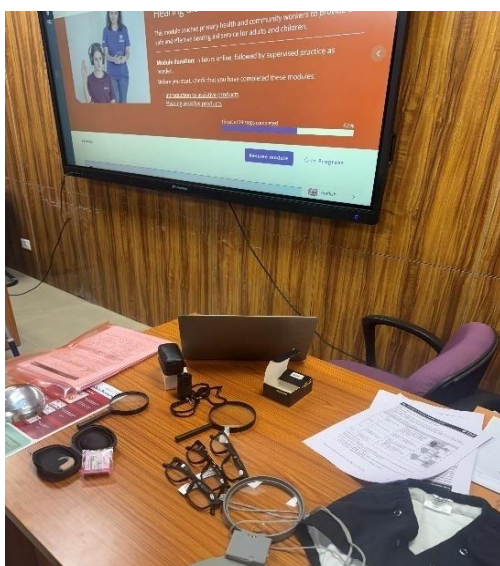
## **Day 2 – 13th November 2024**

On the second day of the TAP training, participants engaged in a blend of online learning and hands-on practice focused on otoscopy and ear syringing (ear wash). The day began with interactive online modules covering the basics of otoscopy, recognizing anatomical landmarks, identifying danger signs, and the steps for safe ear syringing (ear wash). This was followed by a practical session where participants used otoscope under supervision to examine each other, honing their skills in identifying normal structures and potential abnormalities while receiving feedback from trainers. They also practiced ear syringing (ear washout), with emphasis being on patient safety, hygiene, and recognizing contraindications. The day concluded with an interactive Q&A session to address doubts and discuss case scenarios and gave their feedback.

### Day 3 – 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 (Thursday)

The session began with a briefing on the second module, introducing participants to various assistive products such as spectacles and uni-focal lenses, with brief explanations on how to use them. The group was then introduced to the 'hearWHO' app, which helps in monitoring hearing health. Participants were shown the app's functionality and its practical uses, providing them with an understanding of its benefits in daily life.

The session continued with a theoretical introduction to basics of Audiometry, educating participants on the fundamentals of doing screening hearing tests. Afterward, participants were divided into small groups of 4-5 individuals and they had hands-on practice with an audiometer, under the supervision of an audiologist. The session concluded with the participants moving on to the content of module 3, continuing their learning journey on assistive technologies and hearing health.



#### **Day 4 – 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 (Friday)**

The session began with participants reading through Module 3, after which they were divided into small groups of 4-5 people. They were introduced to the hearing aids, learning about their function and correct use. Each participant had the opportunity to fit hearing devices into their peers' ears, gaining hands-on experience with the equipment.

Following the introduction to hearing aids, each group was assigned a preidentified patient with known hearing difficulties. The participants conducted an assessment using the format provided for the purpose, which included taking the patient's relevant medical history, performing an otoscopic examination, and conducting the screening audiometry tests. Based on the findings, hearing devices were fitted to the patient, allowing the participants to apply their knowledge in a practical setting independently while mentors keeping a close watch.



#### **Day 5 – 16 November 2024 (Saturday)**

The training session commenced at 9:30 AM. The day began with an informal discussion, where learners reflected on the previous day's training and offered suggestions for improving service

delivery. Key topics covered included the importance of counselling for patients on the use of hearing aids, along with the necessary follow-up procedures, either in person or via phone, two weeks after the initial consultation. The HO-approved follow-up forms from the TAP modules were distributed and explained to the learners, and they were advised on how to contact mentors for further guidance in the field. An online feedback survey was also conducted to assess the effectiveness of the training module.

Following it, the learners were divided into four groups and engaged in hands-on practice, including ear health screening, screening audiometry and hearing aid fitting, with guidance from the mentors. All queries were addressed during this practical session. The training concluded with a vote of thanks and certificates of completion were distributed to the participants. The training was formally ended after thanking the learners, mentors and organizers.

### **Post training debriefing:**

A debriefing meeting was held at the conclusion of learners training. The participants in the meeting included WHO team, Team including mentors from Community Medicine department and ENT department from MAMC, Delhi and was also attended by officials of Sound and Hearing 2030, Mobility India. The purpose of the meeting was to assess the utility of the WHO TAP module in up-skilling ANMs to provide ear health check, screening Audiometry and identify correctly people in need of hearing aid followed by correctly fitting them to eligible candidates. Discussion included feasibility, sustainability and translation of training into practice. The discussions also pertained to identification of areas of improvement in the module/ training, and plans for follow-up assessment of the learners over the period of next three months.









